Approved for Release: 2018/07/25 C00733249

SECRET

21 February 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Activation of Belle Chase Ammunition Depot

1. With reference to Memorandum for the Record, dated 20 February 1961, subject same as above, WH/4/Support was notified on 9 February 1961 to take appropriate action to obtain a holding site for JMATE staff and trainee personnel to be reassigned from Areas 3a and 3b.

2. On 10 February an announcement was made at the regular WH/4 staff meeting that arrangements were underway to secure a holding area and that the proposed location of the site was the Belle Chase Naval Ammunition Depot. During this period and through 12 February 1961, JMWAVE was involved in securing a site. Headquarters was informed that they could not obtain a facility to meet the short deadline requirement of 20 February.

3. On 13 February it was announced at the WH/4 staff meeting that a team was dispatched to survey the Belle Chase Ammunition Depot to determine its suitability for JMATE's requirement. At this time it was not definitely known whether this facility could be adequately supported to meet the 20 February requirement. Upon receipt of advice from the survey team on 14 February it was finally determined that appropriate arrangements could be made. The survey team was informed to proceed with activation.

4. During the early stages of discussion and as late as 14 February with respect to the need for this requirement there was an indication that the deactivation of Areas 3a and 3b was not necessary. This coupled with the fact that it could not be ascertained whether the Belle Chase Ammunition Depot was suitable for the Project needs

SECRET

Approved for Release: 2018/07/25 C00733249

Approved for Release: 2018/07/25 C00733249

without conducting the normal routine preliminary survey of the site precluded formalizing requirements with the Department of Defense and Department of State until certain facts were established.

5. It is agreed that such requirements be levied through appropriate offices on a timely basis however it is also mandatory that prior to levying such requirements the Project be certain of its needs.

6. In essence, if sufficient lead time can be provided, the normal requirements can be met. However, if not, this office finds no other alternative than to expedite action levied by the operational component and furnish necessary data to proper offices as progress is made.

(b)(3)

WILLIAM E. EISEMANN
Chief, WH/4/Support

Distribution:
Orig. & 1 - C/WH/4
1 - C/WH/4/PM
1 - C/WH/4/P&P
1 - SA/Mil
1 - C/WH/4/Support

Approved for Release: 2018/07/25 C00733249

Approved for Release: 2018/07/25 C00733249

UNCLASSIFIED INTERNAL CONFIDENTIAL SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM: Chief, WH/4/Support

NO.

DATE: 2 February 1965

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE RECEIVED	DATE FORWARDED	OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
1. Chief, WH/4				Ok want a full write up on the above for the Chief's signature. Get the [illegible]
2. C/WH/4/OPS				[illegible]
3. C/WH/4/Spt	2 Feb	2 Feb		[illegible]
4. [illegible]				[illegible]
5. [illegible]				[illegible]
6.				
7.				[illegible]
8.				[illegible]
9.				[illegible]
10.				[illegible]
11.				[illegible]
12.				[illegible]
13.				[illegible]
14.				[illegible]
15.				

FORM NO. [illegible] SECRET CONFIDENTIAL INTERNAL UNCLASSIFIED

Approved for Release: 2018/07/25 C00733249